

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A telecommunications system, comprising:
5 a plurality of network clients including a positioning controller and a communications controller; and
a positioning server including a coordinating controller for maintaining a database of network clients to be tracked and provide updates of position-related information to a presence server;
10 wherein an associated network client is configured to transmit position information received via said positioning controller to said positioning server via said communications controller when said associated network client is determined to be outside a predetermined range.
- 15 2. A telecommunications system in accordance with claim 1, wherein said positioning controller receives global positioning network signals for determining a position of said associated network client.
- 20 3. A telecommunications system in accordance with claim 1, wherein said communications controller comprises a cellular network controller for transmitting on a cellular telephone network to said positioning server.
4. A telecommunications system in accordance with claim 1, wherein
25 positioning server includes an e-mail message generator for communicating said updates to said presence server.
5. A telecommunications system in accordance with claim 1, wherein
positioning server includes an Instant Messaging message generator for
communicating said updates to said presence server.
- 30 6. A telecommunications system in accordance with claim 1, wherein
positioning server includes a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) message generator for
communicating said updates to said presence server.

7. A telecommunications system in accordance with claim 1, wherein said presence server maintains a database of location and presence correlation pairs for registered users and receives location updates from said positioning server.

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8. A telecommunications system in accordance with claim 1, wherein said positioning server maintains a database of location and presence correlation pairs for registered users and provides presence updates to said presence server.

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9. A telecommunications device, comprising:
a positioning controller adapted to determine positioning information for said telecommunications device; and
a cellular telephone controller adapted to receive said positioning information from said positioning controller and cause said positioning information to be transmitted to an associated server when said telecommunications device is determined to have changed status.

10. A telecommunications device as recited in claim 9, wherein said positioning controller receives global positioning information signals to determine said positioning information.

11. A telecommunications device as recited in claim 9, further including a rules database of location and presence related information.

12. A telecommunications device as recited in claim 11, wherein said cellular telephone controller transmits changes to location and presence status to said associated server when said telecommunications device is determined to be outside a predetermined range.

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13. A telecommunications device as recited in claim 11, wherein said cellular telephone controller transmits changes to location status to said associated server.

14. A telecommunications device as recited in claim 11, wherein said cellular telephone controller receives updates to said rules database from said associated server.

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15. A telecommunications server, comprising:

a presence control unit adapted to receive and maintain presence information for a plurality of users; and

10 a location control unit adapted to receive and maintain location information for said plurality of users, said location information correlated with said presence information;

wherein said location control unit is adapted to receive updates to said location information for particular ones of said plurality of users when said particular ones determine they are outside a predetermined range.

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16. A telecommunications server in accordance with claim 15, including a first interface for receiving predefined presence-location correlation rules from associated users.

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17. A telecommunications server in accordance with claim 16, wherein receiving said location information comprises receiving user-positioning updates from a remote user from an operably coupled wireless network.

18. A telecommunications server in accordance with claim 17, wherein said 25 operably coupled wireless network comprises a cellular telephone network.

19. A telecommunications server in accordance with claim 17, wherein said operably coupled wireless network comprises a personal communication service (PCS) network.

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20. A telecommunications server in accordance with claim 17, further comprising a second interface for transmitting user-positioning updates to an

operably coupled enterprise server.

21. A telecommunications server in accordance with claim 20 wherein said receiving said user-positioning updates comprises receiving said user-positioning
5 updates via a telephone dial-in and said second interface comprises an e-mail interface.

22. A telecommunications server in accordance with claim 20 wherein said receiving said user-positioning updates comprises receiving said user-positioning
10 updates via a telephone dial-in and said second interface comprises an Instant Messaging interface.

23. A telecommunications server in accordance with claim 17, further comprising a second interface for transmitting user-positioning updates to one or
15 more local users in a packet telephony format.

24. A telecommunications method, comprising:
receiving one or more user positioning and presence correlation rules at a
local controller;
20 transmitting said one or more positioning and presence correlation rules to a remote device.
receiving positioning updates at said remote device; and
transmitting presence updates to other local controllers or remote devices as
specified in said one or more positioning and presence correlation rules when a
25 particular one of said remote devices determines it is outside a predetermined range.

25. A telecommunications method in accordance with claim 24, wherein said receiving one or more user positioning and presence correlation rules
comprises receiving at a server one or more rules set via a network interface device
30 operably coupled to said one or more local controllers.

26. A telecommunications method in accordance with claim 25, wherein

said receiving positioning updates comprises receiving one or more signals from a global positioning network.

27. A telecommunications method in accordance with claim 24, further
5 comprising transmitting positioning updates from said remote device to one or more servers via a radio-linked network.

28. A telecommunications method in accordance with claim 27, wherein
said radio-linked network comprises a cellular telephone network.

10 29. A telecommunications method in accordance with claim 27, wherein
said radio-linked network comprises a personal communication service (PCS)
network.

15 30. A telecommunications method in accordance with claim 27, wherein
said one or more user positioning and presence correlation rules comprise one or
more time-of-day parameters.

20 31. A telecommunications method in accordance with claim 27, wherein
said one or more user positioning and presence correlation rules comprise one or
more day-of-week parameters.